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Naval Postgraduate School Historical Highlights

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Naval Postgraduate School Historical Highlights (NPS Architect Walter A. Netsch)

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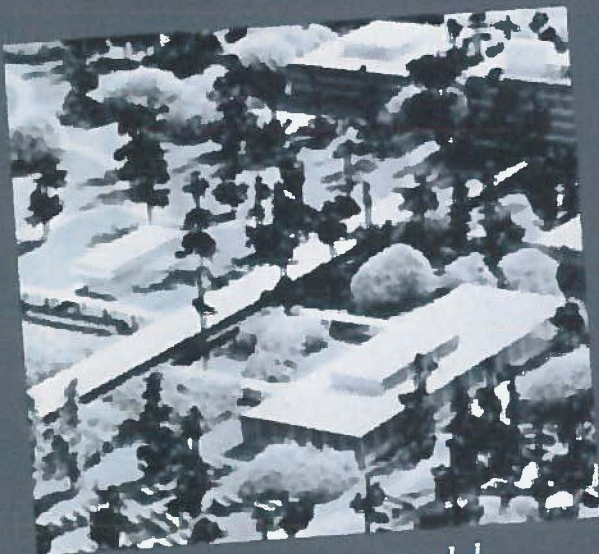
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Historical Highlights

The first classroom and laboratory buildings at NPS — Spanagel, King, Root, Halligan and Bullard halls — were designed by architect Walter A. Netsch in 1951.

Netsch graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1943, served in the Army Corps of Engineers in the North Pacific during WWII, and joined the Chicago firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) in 1947. In 1950, he became SOM's lead architect for the Del Monte Shopping Center in Monterey, then single-handedly developed the plans for the NPS campus. Details of his NPS architectural plans were published in two articles in "Architectural Record" in 1954 and 1955.



An early NPS campus model designed by architect Walter Netsch.

Netsch also designed the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. A book published in 2008 by the Northwestern University Library Press titled, "Walter A Netsch, FAIA: A Critical Appreciation and Sourcebook," chronicles his career and achievements. It is available in the Dudley Knox Library.

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